

Ref #	Hits	Search Query	DBs	Default Operator	Plurals	Time Stamp
L2	38263	vcc	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2005/10/27 12:40
L3	9	l2 and angiogenesis	US-PGPUB; USPAT	OR	ON	2005/10/27 12:40
L4	52187	vcc	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2005/10/27 12:40
L7	12	l4 and angiogenesis	US-PGPUB; USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT	OR	ON	2005/10/27 12:41

The quality of the received signal is of a first type if the signal meets a first threshold, and the quality of the received signal is of a second type if the signal meets a second threshold. The user of the phone receives an indication of the two types of signals based on a percentage of acceptability of the received signals.

Claim 1 is illustrative of the claimed invention, and it reads as follows:

1. The method of indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, the received signal sent to the mobile phone by a remote transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting reception of the received a signal from the remote transmitter at the mobile phone,

inspecting said received signal by comparing said received signal with a predetermined threshold for determining its quality, at least in terms of a percentage of acceptable,

providing an output correlated to the results of said inspecting step such that when said received signal has met said predetermined threshold with which said received signal is compared during said operation of comparing, the output is of a first type and, otherwise, the output is of a second type, the second type different than the first type, and the output indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable, and

providing a user discernible indication is response to said output provided during said operation of providing the output, the user discernible indication indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

The references relied on by the examiner are:

Obayashi et al. (Obayashi)	5,802,039	Sept. 1, 1998
Coverdale et al. (Coverdale)	5,809,414	Sept. 15, 1998

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Shah	6,167,259	Dec. 26, 2000 (filed Jun. 19, 1998)
Besharat et al. (Besharat)	6,219,540	Apr. 17, 2001 (filed Nov. 13, 1998)
Detlef et al. (Detlef)	6,243,568	Jun. 5, 2001 (filed Mar. 22, 1997)
Champness et al. (Champness) (U.K. Patent Application)	2,275,848	Sept. 7, 1994

Claims 1, 3, 13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coverdale in view of Shah.

Claims 4 through 7 and 10 through 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coverdale in view of Shah and Detlef.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coverdale in view of Shah and Champness.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coverdale in view of Shah, Detlef and Besharat.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coverdale in view of Shah, Detlef, Besharat and Obayashi.

Reference is made to the briefs and the answer for the respective positions of the appellant and the examiner.

OPINION

We have carefully considered the entire record before us, and we will sustain the obviousness rejections of claims 1, 3, 5,

13 and 15, and reverse the obviousness rejections of claims 4 and 6 through 12.

According to the examiner's findings (answer, page 4), Coverdale discloses all of the limitations of claims 1 and 13 except for "the signal quality is indicated in terms of an acceptable percentage." Coverdale discloses that "the parameter indicating signal transmission quality can be, for example, the RSSI [received signal strength indicator], the BER (Bit Error Ratio), . . . etc" (column 1, lines 60 through 63). The examiner's as well as the appellant's contentions (answer, page 4; brief, pages 6 and 7; reply brief, page 3) to the contrary notwithstanding, the RSSI (i.e., received signal strength indicator) is an "indication" of "percentage" of the acceptability of the received signal based upon the different levels of audible noise that are inserted onto the received signal (column 3, line 43 through column 4, line 10). Stated differently, if the quality of the received speech is at Threshold 1, then the percentage of audible noise that will be added to the received signal will be very low, and if the quality of the received speech is at Threshold 2, then the percentage of audible noise that will be added to the received signal will be very high (Figure 2; column 4, lines 45 through 52).

If Coverdale is using BER as an indicator of signal quality (column 3, lines 25 through 27), then we agree with the examiner that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use "percentage" as a measure of signal acceptability since BER is a ratio (i.e., a percentage² as taught by Shah in the Abstract) of error bits to the total number of bits that are received.

In view of the foregoing, the obviousness rejection of claims 1 and 13 is sustained.

The obviousness rejection of claims 3 and 15 is likewise sustained because appellant has chosen to let these claims stand or fall with claims 1 and 13 (brief, page 5).

The obviousness rejection of claim 4 is reversed because we agree with the appellant's argument (brief, page 7) that the timing mentioned in Detlef "is not an intentionally designed time period" that the system waits before generating an output indicator signal.

The obviousness rejection of claims 6, 7 and 10 through 12 is reversed because Coverdale, Shaw and Detlef neither teach nor would have suggested to the skilled artisan to separate the voice signal from the control signal prior to making a comparison of

² Appellant's disclosure notes that BER is measured in percentages (specification, pages 4 and 5).

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the voice signal to a predetermined threshold. Coverdale performs a comparison of the voice/control signals in comparison/control module 70 (Figure 1).

The obviousness rejection of claim 5 is sustained because appellant has not presented any patentability arguments for this claim that differ from those presented for claim 1 (brief, page 8).

The obviousness rejections of claims 8 and 9 are reversed because the teachings of Besharat and Obayashi fail to cure the noted shortcoming in the teachings of Coverdale, Shah and Detlef.

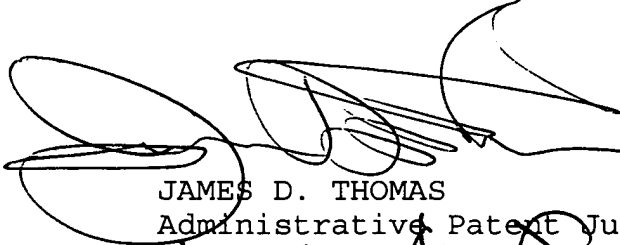


DECISION

The decision of the examiner rejecting claims 1, 3 through 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is affirmed as to claims 1, 3, 5, 13 and 15, and is reversed as to claims 4 and 6 through 12.

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No time period for taking any subsequent action in
connection with this appeal may be extended under 37 CFR § 1.136
(a) (1) (iv).

AFFIRMED-IN-PART


JAMES D. THOMAS
Administrative Patent Judge)
(

KENNETH W. HAIRSTON
Administrative Patent Judge)
(

ANITA PELLMAN GROSS
Administrative Patent Judge)
(

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Scheef & Stone, L.L.P.
5956 Sherry Lane
Suite 1400
Dallas, TX 75225